

that is unmatched, and who demanded excellence from himself and others.

Brandon has been an accomplished manager, first of my campaign and for the last 4 years, of my entire congressional staff.

When you are elected as a freshman, you are often advised to not hire your campaign manager as your chief, but I did not listen, thankfully.

I knew I needed someone who knew Nevada's Third Congressional District, who always had my back, who knew me, and knew how to get things done. My office was better for it, but most importantly, my constituents were better for it.

Brandon, it has been a good run. Wishing you all the best.

106TH ANNIVERSARY OF PUERTO RICO'S U.S. CITIZENSHIP

(Mrs. GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN. Madam Speaker, today I rise to celebrate the 106th anniversary of the people of Puerto Rico being granted their U.S. citizenship.

Puerto Rico became a U.S. territory in 1898. In 1906, President Roosevelt called on Congress to confer U.S. citizenship to Puerto Ricans. On March 2, 1917, the Jones Act was signed into law.

We are proud American citizens, and we are proud of the contributions we have made to this great Nation. More than 235,000 Puerto Rican servicemembers have served and have fought in every military conflict that our Nation has had since World War I.

However, although we are U.S. citizens, the Federal Government often treats us unequally. I live on the island, and I can tell you that we no longer want to be treated differently.

We want the same rights and responsibilities as our fellow citizens in the States, which can only be achieved with statehood.

Like Congress acted 106 years ago to grant us our cherished American citizenship, Congress has an obligation to act again and make us a permanent part of the Union as the 51st State.

CELEBRATING WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

(Mr. ESPAILLAT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. ESPAILLAT. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor women in America and abroad by commemorating Women's History Month.

Today and always, we honor the brave, courageous, and fearless women who have made this Nation so great; to name a few: Rosa Parks, Harriet Tubman, Dolores Huerta, Celia Cruz, the hidden figures such as Mary Jackson and Katherine Johnson, and most recently, Madam Speaker Emerita NANCY

PELOSI, who was the first woman to serve as Speaker of this House.

From the women in leadership roles on my staff who help respond every single day to the needs of my constituents, to the women who tirelessly uplift our families and our communities, we cannot imagine a world without the leadership of women.

It fills me with great pride to represent a district that is over 52 percent female. Women get things done—period, and they do it better than us men.

Happy Women's History Month, Madam Speaker.

CELEBRATING WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

(Mrs. MCCLAIN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. MCCLAIN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the month of March as Women's History Month. This is a time dedicated to recognizing and honoring the women throughout American history who have helped shape our Nation.

Let me be clear: I do mean Women's History Month. Women have been fighting for over a century for our right to vote, our right to be heard, and our right to have a seat at the table.

Now, the woke left is claiming that instead of celebrating women this month, we should be celebrating birthing people.

Well, last I checked, the only person who could actually give birth was a woman, but let's not let the facts get in the way of a good story.

They claim the phrase "woman" is offensive to trans women, and because of that, we should choose a more inclusive phrase.

Well, let me just say: I will be celebrating Women's History Month. I will not celebrate the woke left forcing the rest of America to call a man a woman, especially when these men are actively threatening women's rights by demanding to be allowed to compete in sports against biological women like Riley Gaines.

So congratulations to all the women.

RAIL SAFETY REGULATIONS

(Mr. LANDSMAN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. LANDSMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of the folks in East Palestine, Ohio, and for bipartisan congressional action on 21st century rail safety regulations.

On February 3, 38 train cars derailed in East Palestine, Ohio; 11 of them carrying highly explosive material. There was a massive explosion, and the community has been reeling ever since.

Congressman BILL JOHNSON pulled the entire Ohio delegation together, Republicans and Democrats, to ask FEMA for additional action.

FEMA's response: Full aid will be provided, and teams are on the ground to help now.

While Norfolk Southern will be responsible for making East Palestine whole, we must now act to ensure this never happens again.

Congress, all of us, Republicans and Democrats, need to pass a bipartisan package that ensures safety from the wheel bearings to the brakes, from the detectors to the placards, for more frequent and comprehensive inspections to clearer communications with our communities.

We must do this for the folks in East Palestine, for Cincinnati and southwest Ohio, and for every community in this great country of ours.

HONORING STEWART McNALLY

(Mr. MILLS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. MILLS. Madam Speaker, I come to the floor today to honor Stewart McNally, a United States Army veteran who sadly passed away last summer.

Before he began his honorable service in the United States Army in the late 1960s, Stewart was the captain of the Arthur Hill Tech football team and went on to work at GM shortly after graduating.

He served honorably, and after his service in uniform, he came to Florida in my district to begin another kind of service, his family.

He moved to Florida's Seventh to take care of his elderly father, another civil servant, who served in the United States Army during World War II.

His friends and family remember him as a loyal friend with a great sense of humor. He loved to cycle, fish, and run in his free time.

Stewart is survived by his son, Jacob, and I am honored to help celebrate his life and incredible service to the United States of America.

WORKERS FEEL LEFT BEHIND

(Mr. SORENSEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SORENSEN. Madam Speaker, I have heard from so many working families across central and northwestern Illinois who feel like they are left behind.

Big corporations report record profits while workers struggle to make ends meet. Let's remember that it was the American worker who built this country, and it was the workers coming together to bargain collectively who built a strong middle class.

The PRO Act is the most significant update to workers' rights in 80 years, and it couldn't come soon enough.

When workers have the power to stand together and form a union, they get higher wages, better benefits, and safer working conditions.

I was proud to help introduce the PRO Act, and I urge Members of Congress to pass it so we can protect the right to organize, rebuild our middle class, and improve the lives of working families in Illinois and across our great Nation.

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CELEBRATING NATIONAL READ ACROSS AMERICA DAY

(Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate National Read Across America Day.

Tomorrow, classrooms across the country will celebrate the Nation's largest celebration of reading. On this day, we celebrate the joy reading brings to children and families, caregivers, educators, and adults alike. Reading unlocks new adventures and new ideas and brings about a world of imagination.

The day was established by the National Education Association in 1998 to help get kids excited about reading.

Madam Speaker, I want to highlight one celebration in PA-15. Students at Howard Elementary School in Centre County kicked off this celebration with the Pennsylvania State Grange.

This celebration started with an assembly to get the kids excited and will consist of a variety of events focused on reading. Perhaps the most exciting event taking place is "Drop Everything and Read Day." Throughout the day, a sound will play randomly and students will be expected to drop whatever they are working on and pick up a book.

Madam Speaker, as a former Howard Elementary School student and now a senior member of the Education and the Workforce Committee, I am always happy to see our students eager to learn.

FIRST ANNIVERSARY OF RUSSIA'S INVASION OF UKRAINE

(Mr. COSTA asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. COSTA. Madam Speaker, a year ago, President Putin launched an unlawful invasion of the people of Ukraine, and it has changed the world, a war that has led to nothing but destruction and human atrocities.

I have seen these atrocities firsthand when I traveled to Ukraine last September—the bombing of homes, of hospitals, of schools; the impacts on innocent women and children; the deportation of families; and the atrocities go on and on.

President Putin is a war criminal. I am proud that he has sanctioned me and many of my colleagues for our support of Ukraine and for standing up for

their democracy. They are standing up for our democracy, as well.

Putin thought he could divide us and Ukraine would immediately fall. He was wrong, wrong, and wrong. The Western world is united as one because freedom and democracy are worth fighting for, and that is what this is all about.

We need to continue to provide financial support to Ukraine, including fighters, tanks, ATACMS, HIMARS, what it takes for them to win this war because there is no other option.

This is the test of our time, and we must rise to meet that test at this time.

DISAVOW NEW NUCLEAR ACCORD WITH IRAN

(Mr. SANTOS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SANTOS. Madam Speaker, I rise today horrified at the reports from Iran that hundreds of schoolgirls appear to have been poisoned in the suspected attack by the Iranian Government. I cannot stand by idly and watch these women and children continue to be targeted simply because they want to live free from persecution.

Last month, I called on the President to do more than merely sanction the Ayatollah's illegal theocratic regime. The Biden administration will not respond because they are still looking to resuscitate the 2015 nuclear deal with Iran known as the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action.

Additionally, its weakness on the world stage has the administration consumed by the war in Ukraine and recent airspace invasions from China.

We have faced decades-long failed attempts to negotiate directly with the Islamic Republic. If there is one thing that has become crystal clear, it is that resuscitating the nuclear deal no longer offers a realistic pathway for mitigating the threats posed by Tehran.

We need to stop virtue signaling and soft-pedaling with flimsy symbolic support. I call on the Biden administration to publicly disavow the prospect of a new nuclear deal with Iran.

HONORING THE LEGACY OF JACKIE JOYNER-KERSEE

(Ms. BUDZINSKI asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. BUDZINSKI. Madam Speaker, I rise today, at the close of Black History Month and the beginning of Women's History Month, to recognize an incredible athlete and role model from Illinois' 13th Congressional District, Jackie Joyner-Kersey. I also wish her a happy birthday today.

Born and raised in East St. Louis, Jackie Joyner-Kersey is one of the best track athletes of all time, winning six

Olympic medals and four World Championship track titles.

Over the course of her 12-year Olympic career, Jackie broke countless records, including the world record in the heptathlon that still stands today. She was also the first African-American woman to win gold medals in long jump and the heptathlon.

Jackie's legacy extends far beyond her athletic achievements. Just last week, I visited the Jackie Joyner-Kersey Foundation, which provides educational and athletic opportunities for young people in East St. Louis. I was truly inspired by what I saw in Jackie's commitment and work. Throughout her life, she has used her platform to be a tireless advocate for children's education, racial equity, and women's rights.

As we celebrate Black history and women's history, let's recognize incredible folks like Jackie Joyner-Kersey.

REVERSE FUNDING FOR ELECTIVE ABORTIONS

(Mr. MCCORMICK asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. MCCORMICK. Madam Speaker, the President is once again using the Department of Defense to advance the far-left agenda and pro-abortion policies.

The new policy to give servicemembers and their families paid administrative leave for up to 3 weeks and travel reimbursement to obtain out-of-state elective abortions is yet another extreme example.

The law is clear and vetted. No Federal funds are to be used for elective abortions. The military mission is equally clear: to be a lethal force to defend the innocents and to defeat those who would do them harm. This flies in the face of that mission.

I call on the President to reverse this policy, which is in violation of law and counter to the military mission.

BORDER NEEDS MORE RESOURCES

(Mr. LALOTA asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. LALOTA. Madam Speaker, the border is not secure. Our officers are doing everything they can, but they need more resources. They need better leadership.

The President must take the border crisis seriously because 100,000 Americans died from fentanyl poisoning last year, and we know that fentanyl is coming from China through the U.S.-Mexico border.

Republicans in the House understand this. We stand ready to increase physical barriers, to hire more Border Patrol agents and immigration judges, to implement new technologies, and to support our officers on the front lines of this crisis.